Movement came into existence to fight against the imperialists and not to play between two blocks. Those countries which have got Independence, the role of the Non-Aligned Movement is to fight against the neo-colonial machinations of the imperialistic forces. The President's Address does not mention anything about this. Sir, as far as the Non-Aligned Movement is concerned, we have to play a very big role, especially at present Soviet Union has got its own problems Now, there is no Soviet Union to help the Third World Countries. That is why, the role of the Non-Aligned Movement is much more important and India in particular has to play a very big role. Gulf war amply proved it But there is no mention about this anti-imperialistic role in the Presidential Address I wonder whether it is due to the IMF loan ? It is very difficult for you to fight against the imperialists especially the USA That is the touch a stone and that is the role we have to play

Lastly, I want to say something about the Women's Rights Commission, as mentioned in the President's Address. An Act is passed in this Parliament with regard to the National Commission on Women

16 00 *Hrs.*

Without any reference to that President has mentioned about the Women's Rights Commissioner During the time of Shri Rajiv Gandhi, a conference of the Women's organisation was called We had discussed perspective plan but what was the result ? Everybody opposed the proposal of Women's Rights Commissioner and now the Congress Party is coming up with the same proposal I say a Commission at the Centre alone cannot deal with the problems of the women of the whole country because we are living in a country where feudal attitude still dominate the society. Even the progressive women are speaking in favour of Sati and all that in the House. We have also witnessed it. Such things are happening. So, a Women's Rights Commission at the Centre alone will not help. You should establish the Commission in all the states and they should have connections with the districts, then only it will help to improve the lot of the women of the country. We had a lot of discussion on this and at that time the Congress Party did not realise it. Now they are coming up with the proposal to have the very same Commission. They don't have the democratic sense. That is the major drawback and we have to rectify it We should discuss this with the women's organisations and immediately a Women's Rights Commission should be constituted. This is the demand of the women organisation of the country.

Sir, I oppose this motion because of all these points Please don't expect co-operation for all these things from our party Only if things are discussed and if you are prepared to change your ways something can be done.

Thank you, Sir.

SHRIMATI MALINI BHATTACHARYA (JADAVPUR) Sir, Congress (I) lady Member is silent on the Women's Commission

16 02 *hrs*

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

(i) Bank Robbery in Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi on 15-7-1991.

[English]

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs :

(SHRI M M. JACOB) : I wish to apprise the Hon'ble Members of this august House about the incident of bank robbery which took place in the State Bank of Patiala, Okhla Industrial Area, New Delhi on 15th July, 1991.

At 10 40 a.m. on 15-7-1991 ; 4 unidentified persons entered into the premises of the Bank. When one of them was caught by the Bank guard, Shri Moasi Ram, he was shot at by the other two intruders. He, alongwith a bank customer, Shri Rajiv Sharma, sustained bullet injuries. While one of the intruders stood guard

at the entrance of the bank, his accomplices resorted to unprovoked firing killing another customer Shri A K Sharma The robbers then pulled out the Head Cashier Shri Ashok Chowdhry from his cabin and took him alongwith the Branch Manager, Shri Rajiv Gupta to the strong room of the Bank The safe was forcibly got opened and cash amounting to approximately Rs 2 lakhs was taken out Both of them were shot at from point blank range While the bank customers the Branch Manager and the Bank guard died either at the spot or on way to hospital, the Head Cashier succumbed to injuries later.

The robbers fired at least 11 rounds from 9 mm pistol and another weapon which could be of 7 62|7 63 calibre The description given by the eye witnesses indicates that the weapon could be a mini stengun After killing the Bank employees and customers the assailants fled in a white Maruti car bearing Registration No DIL 3796 They also carried away a double barrelled gun of the Bank guard A case vide FIR No 202 dated 15 7 1991 under section 394|397 302 IPC and sections 25 27 54|59 Arms Act and Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act has been registered at police station Okhla and the investigation entrusted to the Crime Branch

City-wise alertness was sounded immediately after the incident Special nakabandi was organised and combing operations conducted in various parts of the city The car was apparently carrying a fake number plate as DIL series is being issued for only trucks and commercial vehicles

A Police Control Room Van was at a distance of about two kilometres from the place of incident

The Bank had an alarm system but the alarm was sounded only after the incident.

I request the Hon'ble Members to join me in condemning this reprehensible incident which has resulted in the loss of lives of 5 innocent people I would also request the Hon'ble Members to join me in conveying our deepest sympathies to the bereaved families

I would like to assure the House that we will make every endeavour to arrest the culprits and deal with them sternly. We are determined to provide full protection and security to our citizens Deterrent punishment will be inflicted on those officials entrusted with the maintenance of law and order, if they are found remiss or delinquent in the discharge of their duties

[Translation]

PROF RASA SINGH RAWAT (AJMER) Sir through you I would like to know whether the police has come across any clue during the course of its vigorous combing operation

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN There is no provision for asking questions when an hon Minister makes a statement *(Interruptions)*

[Translation]

SHRI KAIKA DAS (KAROL BAGH) The question is as to what steps the Government proposes to take in this regard What I want to say is that the things mentioned in the statement have already been published in the newspapers What are the measures be ing taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents ?

[English]

MR CHAIRMAN : There are other procedures open to you

SHRI KAIKA DAS Mr Chairman, Sir mine is not a question, but it is a point of clarification *(Interruptions)*

MR CHAIRMAN Kindly do not interfere According to Rules, no questions are allowed at this stage If the

Members feel that they wish to bring something to the notice of the Government, then there are various other procedures open for that and they can raise it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS . Sir, such incidents are occurring almost daily. Last week a similar incident took place in Kalkaji and then came the Okhla incident and yesterday robbers made off with Rs 40 000 after killing a women, at Narwala which falls in my constituency

[*English*]

MR CHAIRMAN I would now ask Shri Jacob to make the other statement

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE (DUM DUM) . Mr Chairman, Sir let me draw your attention to the procedure that is being followed in the Rajya Sabha

It is true that there is no provision here in this House unlike the practice that is being followed in the Rajya Sabha that after the statement of the Minister, clarifications may be sought We considered that in the Rules Committee of the Ninth Lok Sabha and decided that some provision should be there in terms of discretion of the Chair This was decided in the Rules Committee On that basis, we are asking for some clarifications Nothing more than that There is no harm done in this House if we seek clarifications and he provides the answers There is no difficulty in that If it is done, the quality of the debates and discussions of the House will improve.

MR CHAIRMAN . Hon Members, the Rule is quite clear on the subject Rule 372 states : "A statement may be made by a Minister on a matter of public importance with the consent of the Speaker but no question shall be asked at the time the statement is made

I am bound by the Rules. The Rules have to be followed

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I was the Member of the Rules Committee That is why I had informed you that we did take up this matter and decided that we should leave it to the Chair (*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS Sir, whatever the Minister has stated that has appeared in the papers the day before yesterday

[*English*]

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA (Bankura) We have decided it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE It was decided that just clarifications will be sought. For instance, did they find any connection with the terrorists or militants who are creating troubles all over the country ? May I know whether they are associated with this bank robbery These are some of the important questions that are agitating in the minds of the people of not only Delhi but throughout North (*Interruptions*)

MR CHAIRMAN At this stage, it would be unfair to throw questions at the Minister because he has just now made a statement I do not know what type of questions you would like to put; and whether he is prepared to answer them. However seeing the sense of the House, I will allow one question from this side and one question from that side. If the Minister is prepared to answer them, he will answer them or if he requires further information, then he will say that he requires further information to answer them.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN (ROSERA) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the hon. Minister has given details of the incident in his statement, but the statement is silent on the steps, the Government proposes to take to check the recurrence of such incidents (*Interruptions*)

SHRI KALKA DAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, such incidents have become a regular feature in the capital. Seven days back five people were died at J-82 in Kalkaji. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : I will allow you to raise only one question. If the Minister is prepared to answer, he may do so, but if he is not prepared, he can say that he requires notice to furnish the answer. (*Interruptions*)

[*English*]

SHRI A CHARLES (Trivandrum) : I am on a point of order.

MR. CHAIRMAN : What is your point of order ?

SHRI A CHARLES : You have just now read out a rule. You, in your wisdom, has given your ruling. But one hon. Member has stated that there was a decision taken by the Rules Committee. A decision taken by the Rules Committee is one thing. Unless the rules are changed on the basis of the recommendations of the Rules Committee, may I know whether the procedure that has been going on so far and the procedure laid down in the rules can be changed ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : I am informed by the Secretariat that during the life of the Ninth Lok Sabha, the Rules Committee met and it was decided about it during the life of the Ninth Lok Sabha. This question did come up and the Speaker, at that point of time, did allow one or two questions on a statement made by the Minister. Therefore, I am informed that I am not creating a precedent now; a precedent was already created during the life of the Ninth Lok Sabha. Therefore, I am allowing one question from this side and one question from that side. If the Minister is not prepared to answer any question or if he requires further information on that, then he can always say that he would like to require a notice for that.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : I congratulate you on this. The only function of this House is that the quality of the discussion is really flourishing. You have given your ruling which satisfies all of us. Since you have extended your mercy to only two Members, kindly extend the same mercy to a few more Members so that we can also clarify some more points.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I do not want to open a Pandora's Box. The House is already discussing the President's Address. I think it is an important matter and the Minister will tell us something about it.

SHRI P. M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep) : He has got two statements.

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : The other statement is a different one. We are talking about the first statement that he has read out.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS : Mr. Chairman, Sir, Delhi is fast becoming a terrorist haunt.

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly restrict your question to the bank robbery on which the hon. Minister has made the statement. You cannot generalise about what is happening. The statement is on bank robbery which had taken place on the 14th. Kindly restrict your questions to it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI KALKA DAS : That's what I am saying. The recent bank robbery at Okhla claimed five lives. Similar incidents took place in Naiwala and Kalkaji. I would like to know the steps Government proposes to take to curb and check the recurrence of such incidents ? The information that has been furnished in the Statement was there in the newspapers published three days earlier. (Interruptions)

[*English*]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly give a chance to the Minister to answer.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : Please listen to me. I will answer this question. Actually it is a general question on law and order in Delhi. I would appreciate very much if a notice is given for a general discussion on the law and order problems in Delhi. Regarding this bank robbery that took place, the Government is making all efforts to find out the culprits. (Interruptions)

[*Translation*]

[*English*]

SHRI KALKA DAS : What are those effective steps which have been taken by the Government to check the recurrence of such incidents.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I would request the hon. members to listen to the Minister.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : As soon as the bank robbery was reported, within a few minutes a red alert was sounded and the whole area was cordoned off. The search is going on and the Crime Branch has been entrusted with the inquiry. We have alerted the nearest State, the Haryana Government, information has also been flashed to the other areas and a search is going on. That is the position at the moment. The Police Officers are very vigilant on this question.

SHRI CHANDRA JEET YADAV (Azamgarh) : Mr. Chairman, with your permission may I put a question to the hon. Minister ? He has said that the necessary protection have been provided to the bank officers so that this kind of a thing may not happen, where the bank officers and the customers become the victims in this kind of killings. What concrete steps have been taken ? What kind of protection is being provided to the bank officers ? (Interruptions)

I was asking what concrete steps are being taken to provide protection to the customers as well as the bank officers. Is this arrangement going to be there only in Delhi or for other banks also ?

SHRI M. M. JACOB : I think I am misunderstood by the honourable questioner, I only said that we are taking other steps in this particular matter. The question is of a general nature. What will happen to the bank officers and other banks in Delhi and outside, all that is a wider question. We have to take a serious view on this question and find out how best we can do it. If there is a threat to a particular bank and if there is any information about some threat perceptions, then certainly we will provide them special protection.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Bolpur) : Will they give you notice ?

SHRI M. M. JACOB : Otherwise, in a place like Delhi where we have a large number of police personnel on duty who are expected to go round, protection is there.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : It will give ideas to the robbers. You are saying that you will try to give protection to some.

SHRI M. M. JACOB : Let me complete my answer. If a particular bank thinks that they need protection that is a separate issue. If you give protection to banks then the next question will come. Why not give protection to the shops ? People in other offices also will ask. Everybody can ask for protection. All of them are equally responsible and we are bound to give protection to everybody; and that is why we are generally giving protection now.

If there is a specific request, we will certainly take adequate steps to prevent any such incident in that particular area. This problem has to be discussed separately. The issue as to how to protect all the banks and the bank staff in the country is a very major issue.. (*Interruptions*)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Will the hon. Minister be kind enough to make the second statement ?

(Interruptions)

SHRI NIRMAL KANTI CHATTERJEE : Sir, the Hon. Minister and myself were good friends when we were in Rajya Sabha. I do not want to alienate him Kindly allow me to make one clarification from him..*(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : After the second statement, you can ask your question.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI KALKA DAS : The steps taken in this regard have not been outlined.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The facts he has mentioned in his statement have already been published in the newspapers Now, do you want him to distort the facts and present them before you ?

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : The facts have already appeared in the newspapers and he has made them clear in his statement Now you please give a patient hearing to the next statement on the agenda. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly allow the Minister to make the second statement. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : When I am on my feet. Please sit down.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA (South Delhi) : This incident took place in my constituency. *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Khurana, you were not present at that time. Mr. Kalka Das very ably represented your constituency.

[Translation]

SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA : I should also get an opportunity to speak.... *(Interruptions)*

[English]

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Khurana, after the second statement I will allow you to ask one clarification from the Minister.

(Interruptions)

[Translation]

SHRI PIUS TIRKEY (Alipurduar) : Why they have failed to nab the robbers ? Where could they have gone to in a place like Delhi ? I would like to know whether even a single robber has been apprehended ? *(Interruptions)*

(ii) *Bomb explosion at railway track near Patparganj, Delhi on* 14-7-1991

[English]

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M M. JACOB) : I wish to inform the Hon'ble House that on 14-7-1991 at about 11.15 p m, a bomb explosion occurred on the railway track (New Delhi-Ghaziabad Section) near the rail-bridge over Karkarduma Ganda Nala. A goods train which was going towards Ghaziabad had just crossed the railway bridge when the bomb exploded. The goods train, however, passed over the track safely. A case vide FIR No. 448 dated 15th July, 1991 under sections 4|5 Explosive Substance Act & 3|4 Terrorist and Disruptive Activities Act (P) Act of 1989 and 151 Railway Act has been registered at Police Station, New Delhi Railway Station.

The explosion blew off about two feet of the track and made a crater with a depth and diameter of one foot each. On examination of the site, it was found that the explosion was caused by a high explosive substance which was connected with an electric wire of about 100 metres